

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A method of manufacturing a thin-plate article having a ~~particular shape, which are formed almost over~~ at least one surface, with at least a part of the at least one surface of the thin-plate article being formed into a particular shape, by molding from a plastic material, ~~said method of manufacturing the thin-plate article method by molding from the plastic material~~ comprising steps of:

preparing a first molding die having a first molding die surface;

preparing a pre-molding die which is capable of matching with said first molding die and forming a first volume of molding cavity in matching with said first molding die, and which has an injection port for injecting a plastic material into said molding cavity; and

preparing a second molding die which is capable of matching with said first molding die and forming a second volume of molding cavity smaller than said first volume in matching with said first molding die, and which has a second molding die surface facing to said second volume of molding cavity;

with matching said first molding die with said pre-molding die, injecting a molten plastic material from said injection port into said first volume of molding cavity formed between said first molding die and said pre-molding die; and

after ~~completed~~ completion of said injecting step and before curing of said plastic material, releasing said first molding die from said pre-molding die and then matching said first molding die with said second molding die, wherein said plastic material injected in said injecting step is compressed in said second volume of molding cavity so as to mold the plastic material article between said first molding die and said second molding die.

2. (Currently amended) A method of manufacturing a thin-plate article having a ~~particular shape, which are formed almost over~~ at least one surface, with at least a part of the at least one surface of the thin-plate article being formed into a particular shape, by molding from a plastic material, ~~said method of manufacturing the thin-plate article method by molding from the plastic material~~ comprising steps of:

preparing a first molding die having a first molding die surface; and

preparing a second molding die which is capable of matching with said first molding die and forming a molding cavity in matching with said first molding die, and which has a second molding die surface facing to said molding cavity;

with releasing said second molding die from said first molding die, supplying a plastic material having flowability onto a plurality of portions on said first molding die surface of said first molding die to spread said plastic material over said first molding die surface by the flowability of said plastic material, said plastic material being supplied at two portions on each of two crossing diagonal lines whereby the plastic material is supplied at four portions; and

matching said second molding die with said first molding die to form said molding cavity, wherein said plastic material filled in said molding cavity in advance is cured ~~with~~ compressed under compression.

3. (Canceled)

4. A method as defined in claim 3 2, wherein said plastic material is further supplied to a portion adjacent to a crossed point of said two diagonal lines.

5. (Canceled)

6. A method as defined in claim 1, wherein said thin-plate article is a diffusion plate having quadrangular pyramid protrusions.

7. A method as defined in claim 1, wherein said thin-plate article is a Fresnel lens.

8. A method as defined in claim 2, wherein said thin-plate article is a diffusion plate having quadrangular pyramid protrusions.

9. (Canceled)

10. A method as defined in claim 2, wherein said thin-plate article is a Fresnel lens.

11. (Canceled)

12. (Canceled)

13. (Canceled)

14. (Canceled)